

Dangerous Monopolies must be taken by the People at once.

Let the People own the Trusts.

Vol. I. - No. I.

PORTLAND, ME., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1902.

ISSUED ON EMERGENCIES 1
OR EVERY LITTLE WHILE.

THE SOCIALIST CANDIDATES For The Coming City Election.

Mayor-Charles L. Fox.

School Committee at Large-Elizabeth A. Reid.

WARD ONE.

Alderman-Melville A. Floyd.

Councilmen-Henry A. Wilms, Geo. S.

Clark, Adolph E. Charlton.

Warden-Maurice S. Fisher.

Clerk-James H. Beaulieu.

WARD TWO.

Alderman-Edwin M. Stanton.

WARD THREE.

Alderman-Nathaniel G. McAloney.

Councilmen-George W. Libby, Abraham Jacobson, Hollis H. Morey.

Warden-Auguste A. Escoffier.

Clerk-Otto Benziger.

Constables-James H. Walsh, Robert S. Presby.

WARD FOUR.

Alderman-Joseph H. Lamson, Jr.

Councilmen-Adelbert J. Sjolholm, Peter Johnson, Carl Lamson.

Warden-Melvin W. Herrick.

Clerk-Frank Lamson.

WARD FIVE.

Alderman-Albert C. Burnett.

WARD SIX.

Alderman-Leon G. Learned.

Councilmen-Alexander Reid, Walter E. Libby, Abel T. Learned.

Warden-Frank H. Cram.

WARD SEVEN.

Alderman-Joseph H. DeCosta.

Councilmen-Harry C. Bartlett.

Warden-William L. Duley.

WARD EIGHT.

Alderman-George C. Barrows.

Councilmen-Herman L. Van Blarcom, Guy C. Herrick, Bernard J. McCafferty.

WARD NINE.

Alderman-Franklin H. Hatch.

Councilmen-Herbert A. Richardson, Charles I. Blake, Fred E. Irish.

Warden-Carl A. Johnson.

Clerk-Henry A. Mills.

Constables-John A. Folwartschny, Alfred A. Roberts.

If I deliberately walk into the river I have no one to blame but myself. On the same principle, if the Voting Kings of this country (the Working Men) vote the Capitalists into power they have no kick coming if the Capitalists steal their Kingdom.

MUNICIPAL Coal & Woodyard

TO THE WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS OF PORTLAND:-

The question of a public coal and wood yard owned and operated by the City, and where fuel shall be sold wholly in the interests of the people, is of a great importance.

And the people have never realized this great need so sharply and so pressing, as at the present and during the past few months.

The coal strike opened the eyes of every man and woman in this City.

And now that their eyes are open they see with a clearness never possessed before.

You wage earners now perceive that you have been without protection against the excessive charges of the private coal dealers.

The rich could afford to pay the high prices and the very poor were looked after by charity: but you men and women with moderate wages, you are the people out of whom has come the great profit to the dealers of coal.

You are obliged to buy in small quantities and any rise in price affects you first, heaviest and all the time.

If the City had owned a coal and wood yard, you would have been as well protected in buying your small lots as the rich man is now protected by his large purchases and contracts.

There should be no discrimination between rich and poor, on such a vital necessity of life as fuel.

Moreover the workmen of Portland don't ask for charity.

A publicly owned coal yard where everyone is treated alike, and where everyone buys coal at the same price is justice and not charity.

The rich man pays two cents for a postage stamp, so does the poor man. Thank Heaven; there is no charity in a postage stamp!

And it should be remembered that every time you use a postage stamp you send a wee bit of socialist paper flying over the country.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2.

A WATER DISTRICT For Portland

THE SOCIALISTS DEMAND THE WATERWORKS FOR THE WHOLE PEOPLE

The increased cost of living and the unnecessarily high price of coal have opened the eyes of the citizens of Portland.

They have had enough of it and they want relief.

The public ownership of the waterworks and of a municipal coal yard would bring a practical benefit.

Do you want cheaper water?

Then vote with the Socialists for a WATER DISTRICT.

Why don't you vote in your own interests? Why don't you vote against the Portland Water Company?

We have been overridden by this company and their excessive charges for the past generation. Why not act as the citizens have done in nearly all the large cities of the United States, - act in the interest of the common welfare.

We need not hunt for a "Morgan Merger" nor a "Rockefeller Combination" for we have the same thing at home in our kitchens, where we can see it and taste it. It is the-

PORTLAND WATER MONOPOLY.

This monopoly has for years imposed upon the city, and upon the water consumers of Portland.

Are you aware that while the Portland Water Company was exacting nearly twice the water rates of cities of the size of Portland, this company "worked" the City Government out of the great sum of \$21,000.00 to help them build the Munjoy Hill Reservoir?

At the same time the City was paying them the extortionate sum of \$4000. a year for an amount of water so small that the City sued for relief and lost the suit.

Here we have a monopoly turning COMMON WEALTH INTO PRIVATE WEALTH.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.

Municipal Coal and Woodyard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

The postage stamp indicates the common ownership of a common necessity, the ownership of a business that was once in private hands but which could be more economically and justly managed under public ownership.

Some coal dealers are complaining about a loss on soft coal. But says the Westbrook Gazette "According to reports entitled to credence some of the dealers have made enough to stand some loss".

The four members of one firm it is said "will pocket a profit of \$50,000. each, by spring",

This means a profit of \$200,000. to that firm.

Another writer states that "there is a small dealer in Portland, personally known to him, who makes no concealment that out of one thousand tons of hard coal in his sheds at the beginning of the coal strike, he has made \$15,000".

Why did the coal dealers advance the price of coal? Pres. Baer stated over his own signature that the price of hard coal had never advanced in price at the mines from the beginning of the strike to the end; that all advances in price were made by the dealers and were unwarranted by the prevailing conditions.

Why was the price of coal advanced to \$15. a ton?

The reason given by one coal dealer is "to protect their patrons".

That is, they protect a special class, while you wage earners cleared out their stock in small amounts and rolled up the great profits mentioned above.

Such profits extracted from you under compulsion constitute a clear case of mercantile robbery! Vote to put an end to such robbery! Vote for equal protection with the rich!

Vote also to protect the city against the invasion of the coal trust!

Mr. Merrill of Randall & McAllister says; that "the operators will make no contracts with his firm," and that the "coal operators have been planning for years to take over all the coal handling plants in the

country, and control the distribution as they do the supply of coal".

Thus, the most powerful coal firm in Portland acknowledges itself powerless.

But there still remains one power, greater than all the coal dealers, and that power is the

CITY OF PORTLAND.

It and it alone can offer a solid, safe and practical opposition to the complete invasion of the coal trusts, by means of a municipal fuel yard.

It is therefore to the interest of every working-man that he protects his own interest, and the interests of the City by voting for a municipal fuel yard.

Vote therefore for the only Party that dares demand it!

VOTE THE SOCIALIST TICKET!

The Portland "Express" talks in veiled language and tries to confuse Anarchy with Socialism.

This is a laughable farce! The editor of the "Express" knows better as we can personally vouch.

The great Anarchists of today are the law-defying "Trusts"—owned and controlled by private, irresponsible individuals.

If the Editor of the "Express" will look in his Dictionary or Encyclopaedia he will see that Socialism, working in the interests of all, is the only law-abiding party in the United States. Are the post office, the public schools, fire department, all publicly owned, are they anarchy?

In thus intentionally comparing Socialism with Anarchy the editor of the "Express" insults the intelligence of its readers.

Socialism is an International movement. The Socialistic agitation which we feel in Portland is only a part of the huge wave which is sweeping around the whole Earth. Men are working for Socialism in Japan, India and New Zealand, as well as in Maine.

Ninety Five per cent of the objections urged against Socialism are based on a misunderstanding of its principles. All honest men and women are Socialists when once they understand what Socialism really means. INVESTIGATE IT FOR YOURSELF.

Socialists are frequently said to be opposed to private property. Nothing could be further from the truth. Not only do Socialists contend for the right to own things, but their principal objection to the present system is that under it an ever increasing majority of the people are unable to own anything.

ELECTRIC

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The Inevitability of SOCIALISM

That Socialism must obtain in the near future is so obvious to me that I can not understand how any one of ordinary intelligence who uses his brains and is not blinded by party or class prejudice can fail to see the ultimate triumph of Socialism. The Socialist Party contrary to all other parties is distinctly and of necessity a workingmans and working-womans party because it upholds the principles of equal rights and equal privileges to all men and women alike irrespective of race or color.

The scope of the party is so broad and its principles so pure and true to nature that all men may pledge their allegiance to it without fear of betrayal. Socialism stands for all that is best and purest in life, including the spirit of brotherly love, teaching men their duty to each other and to themselves in a manner never before attempted by any political party.

It is not an utopian dream but a science and the purest, cleanest, clearest and most logical of all sciences of political economy so far brought before a thinking world.

Socialism will be a benefit to every man, woman and child in the world, because it will stop the waste of the present system and institute in its stead a rational means of production and distribution which will cure many of the evils which exist today in our economic system. It will produce peace in the mind of the workingman because, then he will be employed by the people and not by a Capitalist. He will know his work is sure and his wages secure because his cause is the cause of all the people, he will not fear the introduction of new and improved machinery because he will know that the more the machine produces the greater will be his share and the more leisure time he will have

for self improvement.

Strikes and boycotts would be things unheard of under Socialism, because then a man would have to strike against himself. The benefits arising from its enobling and elevating influence cannot be over estimated and can hardly be grasped by the ordinary thinker. It requires some study of its principles and any fair minded man who will thoroughly and impartially investigate its principles will become a convert to its tenets.

Socialism must come in the near future. Men are arousing to the thought as never before in the worlds history and the more thought and investigation the surer will be the triumph of Socialism.

The only party under which all nations and people may work together, in Peace and Harmony without wars or rumors of wars.

S. C. PHILLIPS.

They say the Democrats are going to swallow the Socialists as they did the one-idea Populists and Greenbackers.

Here's the crowd the little Democratic Party of America must swallow!

Do you catch on?

Strength of International Socialism:—

From the latest official election returns.

United States (1902) estimated	300,000
Germany (1898)	2,105,000
Holland (1901)	39,000
Ireland (1902)	1,063
Italy (1900)	215,841
Norway (1901)	7,013
Spain (1901)	25,400
Sweden (1902)	48,000
Switzerland (1903)	100,000
Austria	800,000
Belgium (1900)	463,000
Bulgaria (1900)	10,000
Canada (1902)	1,628
Denmark (1901)	43,000
England (1900)	37,000
France (1902)	37,000

Total voting strength, 4,855,674

Socialism is the international uprising of the working class. Workmen of all countries unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains,—you have the world to gain.

Socialists want justice, not charity.

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WORK CALLED FOR AND DELIVERED

A Water District For Portland

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

Do you know that this Water Monopoly has always escaped a just tax, and is especially favored by contract with the City.

And yet in spite of all the above facts it has continued to charge exorbitant rates to consumers. The recent drop in the water rates was a frightened admission of its imposition upon the people.

As a method that will show the people the true condition of affairs, and which will lead to public ownership we demand a good stiff dose of

PRELIMINARY PUBLICITY.

Publicity has shown that publicly owned water plants furnish 1,000,000 gallons for \$59. while private plants charge \$160. That is, water from private plants cost nearly three times as much as water from public plants.

The possession of the water works in private hands means privilege for the few, it means a continuance of antagonism of interests between the public and the private company, with continual danger of power in the hands of the private water company.

Therefore considering this danger, we do not ask the water company to Drop Their Rates But To Drop The WATERWORKS.

Do you workingmen realize the direct benefit of public ownership to you?

Do you know that wages under public ownership are one third better than under private companies?

Do you know that the number of hours per day is less, that work is more steady, and that there is greater security of employment?

Do you know that with public plants there is a persistent policy of improving the conditions of labor?

On the other hand, under private ownership there is a persistent policy of crowding you down.

Why are there so many more advantages under public ownership?

Because a publicly owned plant is YOUR OWN PROPERTY.

And when you vote to own the water works you vote to become your own employer.

You "boss" the water works, and if you are dissatisfied with your water rates you can have a Water Board elected by yourselves, and controlled by your votes. Then you can get justice.

As things are now, justice is impossible for you. You have no remedy against the Portland Water Company except by appeal to the Supreme Judicial Court, at "great expense

and by grievous litigation".

The wage earner who should fight the Portland Water Monopoly would be crushed. Remember! This water company held the city government

AT BAY FOR OVER TWO YEARS!

What chance would you, a single individual, have against such a powerful monopoly.

But when you combine with other workingmen and vote together you constitute a power that can overthrow even this arbitrary monopoly.

Do you realize what abuses publicly owned water works have put a stop to? Here are some:

Excessive charges: Robbery by dividends on watered stock: trickery like that of the Portland Water Company in giving away twenty shares of stock with every \$1000. bond whereby the fortunate possessor realized \$3000. for every \$1000. invested.

A public plant does not have to retain lawyers or lobbyists, or to provide entertainment for City Governments like the recent excursion and dinner given by the Water Company.

It does not have to bear the expenses of pushing the election of men to serve its interests, or to pay blackmail, or buy up individuals or rival companies.

And more than anything else, it cleans up

CORRUPTION IN POLITICS.

Professor Ely says:

"Our corruption in cities dates from the rise of private corporations in control of natural monopolies.

"No gas works, no water works, no street cars, no steam railways are so thoroughly in politics as those in the United States.

"I challenge anyone," continues Professor Ely "to instance a single American city which has gone over to public ownership and which regrets it; which indeed has not found a corrupt political influence was thereby removed."

Other writers endorse this purification of politics by public ownership.

LET THE PEOPLE OWN THE PORTLAND WATERWORKS.

Charles L. Fox.

I've heard of men so mean that they would steal pennies from a blind man, but I fail to see in what way this is any worse than for a man to rob his wife and children. That is exactly what every man does when he votes either of the old party tickets. It is bad enough that women and children are robbed, without the husbands and fathers going to the polls and insisting that the robbers keep up the game. The Government Statistics show that each working man produces in value ten dollars a day, and we all know he doesn't get it. Why? Because, on account of his ignorance and prejudice he refuses to vote for it.

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